Silent night-Holy night

"Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleeps in heavenly peace,
Sleeps in heavenly peace."

Business Endeavors to a Polygamy Life

BUSINESS HINDRANCES TO A RELIGIOUS LIFE.

1 Kings 20:40 And as thy servant was busy here and there, he(the prisoner) was gone.

INTRO. Story of Ahab and Ben-hadad.
The prophet's disguise and confession to the King.
"Keep this man; if by any means he be missing, then shall thy life be for his life."
"And as thy servant was busy here and there, he(the prisoner) was gone."
The man had power to attend th the king's business,
I. for he attended to his own. But he attended to his own too much. As thy servant was busy here and ther

We are all in danger of making the same mistake, in the realm of spiritual things. The text divides itself into three parts-a great trust, a sad confession, and painful
I. consequences. Let us consider these three.

I. A Great Trust.
God has entrusted us with souls. Call them what you will- our personal beings, ourselves, our lives.

Christ taught us to value our lives above all else.
"What doth it profet a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?
We are created in the image of God.
The loawst human being is worth saving.
"There is joy in thepresence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Christ on Calvary is God's estimate of the worth of every human being.

Our own souls or the souls of others may be saved or lost.
"A charge to keep I have,
A God to glorify,
A never-dying soul to save
And fit it for the sky."
I have work for my own soul to do and work for other souls that is more important than any other work could possibly be.

II. The sad confession.

II. The Sad Confession.

A poor excuse is better than none. This man of the text had a very poor excuse, and he has far too many imitators today. One of the most common excuses, "I am very busy and have no time for religion."

1. Some minds entirely absorbed with business. "Busy here and busy there". So busy that when God speaks they do not hear Him.

2. Some minds are entirely absorbed in domestic concerns All taken up with bodily happiness, home comfort. The higher things of life are neglected.

3. Some are entirely engrossed in the pleasures of the world. Because of their animal and worldly pleasure they know nothing of the "lpeasures forevermore", the soul-happiness and joy that comes from living right with God.

III. The painful consequences.

"He was gone". Many a man finds at the end of his life that "his soul is gone".

"Of all sad words of tongue or pen,
The sadd st are these, It might have been."

But its too late. The soul is lost. Life's opportunities are gone. Too late for personal salvation.

2. Likewise, the opportunity to save others may slip by the same way. Then the remorse.

You had a friend you might have helped, but you did not. Perhaps there was a boy or a girl in your sunday school, or a fellow student in college; or there was mother or father, or a most dearly beloved husband or wife- you meant to be a real spiritual help or blessing to that soul so precious to you; but while you were busy here and there, he or she was cut down by death and is gone, far out of your reach.

Do you wish to bless anyone? do it quickly while the opportunity is present. Tomorrow may be too late.

Conclusion. When one first of all tends to the King's business hie own pesonal affairs prosper the better. A godly man can do more and bigger business. Home with Christ in it is a much better home The jous and pleasures of life are infinitely

multilpled and enriched when our lives are touched with the life of God, when our Spirits are quickened by the Holy Spirit.

When we live for God and His kingdom, we live on much higher levels than any of this earth.